

Abstract

I have chosen the topic „Criminal Trial“, because I am interested in criminal law and during my studies I completed an internship at court, which gave me the opportunity to experience criminal trial in practice.

The aim of my thesis is to provide a comprehensive view of criminal trial as the most important part of criminal proceedings with its actual issues.

The thesis begins with an introduction and ends on a conclusion. Between that, the thesis is divided into three main chapters.

The first chapter is called the general characteristics of criminal trial and deals with the Czech legislation governing criminal trial, purpose and meaning of criminal trial and describes the basic principles of criminal proceedings, especially those most used in criminal trial.

The second chapter focuses on the preparation of criminal trial, which is very important. Only a precise preparation can lead to a fluent criminal trial without any adjournment, as law requests. This chapter also discusses presence of the public and media at the court. The chapter tries to answer the question whether it is appropriate if the presiding judge permits making video and audio broadcast from the hearing.

The third chapter analyses the course of the criminal trial, especially its beginning, rights and obligations of parties in the framework of management of trial, law of evidence, adjournment of trial and closing part of the trial. As far as the law of evidence is concerned, the thesis concentrates on cooperation of parties and the exceptional cases, when the court does not have to question a witness in person and only reads a protocol of his or her testimony.

The conclusion consists of two parts: first, a view into statistics kept by Ministry of Justice and second, my own general consideration of selected actual problems. I propose solutions to these problems and try to indicate further development of general binding legal provisions.